How long will it take to receive my benefits?

The Delaware Department of Labor makes every effort to pay eligible claims within 10-14 days due to the current circumstance. This is pending all information received is accurate and timely. If you have specific questions about your claim, please visit ui.delawareworks.com or send an email to: uiclaims@delaware.gov for more information. To check on the status of your benefits, call the hotline. The hotline will let claimants know if a payment was made. The Information Hotline, at (800) 794-3032 or (302) 761-6576 is available 7 days a week, 24 hours per day.

How much will my Unemployment Insurance benefits be? I receive most of my income from tips, am I eligible for Unemployment Claims?

The maximum weekly benefit amount (WBA) in Delaware is \$400 per week. An individual's benefit amount is determined by wages reported by your employer in the base period. You can make up to 50% of your weekly benefit and still qualify for your full benefit amount. Please refer to the claimant handbook for the Unemployment Insurance benefit amount calculation. The Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) will provide an additional \$600 to claimant's weekly

benefits, which is an added benefit disbursement for regular unemployment insurance benefit claims.

I have exhausted my unemployment claim, are there extensions?

If your benefits exhausted or expired between the dates of **July 1, 2019** and **Saturday, April 18, 2020**, you will need to apply for the 13-week extension after 8:00 AM on Sunday April 19, 2020 by visiting <u>ui.delawareworks.com</u> and completing an application for benefits.

If you are currently receiving unemployment insurance benefits and they will not exhaust or expire until after Sunday April 19, 2020, you do not have to take any action. When your current benefits have been exhausted, your additional 13-week extension will automatically begin.

What do self-employed, independent contractors, "gig," 1099 workers need to

do to file for unemployment?

The Delaware Division of Unemployment Insurance is currently implementing a new system where claimants will be able to apply the week of May 11, 2020.

DOL will be providing additional information as soon as possible. Visit the DOL website for updates at dol.delaware.gov. In the meantime, collect the following information and get it ready to submit once the system is implemented:

Gather the **Proper Documents**:

- Driver's license or state issued identification
- State of Delaware business license number (if applicable) <u>find your business license number on the</u> Division of Revenue's website

Your Earnings Records for 2019, which include (if applicable):

- Tax returns
 - Last year's income tax statement or quarterly earnings statement
- 1099 forms
- Pay stubs
- Bank statements
- W2

Gather Information:

- Social security number or ITIN
- If you are not a citizen of the United States, your A Number (USCIS Number)
- Your residential address
- Your mailing address (if different from residential address)
- Your telephone number
- Your email address

- Your date of birth
- If you want to use direct deposit for payment, your bank account and routing numbers. All others will receive payment via debit card.

Congress passed new legislation to expand unemployment benefits. What does this legislation do and when will benefits be available?

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020 (CARES Act) includes three key programs for workers affected by the Coronavirus.

Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)

Will provide an additional \$600 to claimant's weekly benefits. This added benefit is actively being disbursed for regular unemployment insurance benefit claims.

Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)

Provides workers with up to 13 weeks for claims opened after July 1, 2019. Press Release: <u>Delaware Department of Labor Releases Guidelines on 13 Week Extension of Unemployment Benefits</u>

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)

Provides unemployment assistance to independent contractors, self-employed individuals, and religious/faith-based organizations affected by the coronavirus. Individuals requesting PUA will be able to apply for benefits beginning the week of May 11th, 2020.

Will Workers Qualify For Unemployment Benefits If The Coronavirus (Covid-19) Causes An Employer To Slow Down Or Cease Operations?

Unemployment benefits are available to individuals who are unemployed through no fault of their own. If an employer must shut down operations and no work is available, individuals may be eligible for unemployment benefits if they meet the monetary criteria. Employees who are working reduced hours may be eligible and must report their gross wages at the time they are earned, not paid. Delaware makes no distinction between part time and full time employees who are completely unemployed.

Does Delaware Have A Waiting

Week?

Delaware no longer has a waiting week. Claimants should submit a weekly pay authorization the Sunday after a claim is filed and every week thereafter even if they have not yet received a payment.

If An Employee Is In Quarantine Because Of Suspicion Of Having The Coronavirus Will They Be Eligible For Unemployment Benefits?

Delaware would treat this situation as a temporary layoff. The employee should make every reasonable attempt to preserve their health so they are able to return to work once released.

If An Employee Is Ill Because

Of The Coronavirus And Unable To Work Or Cannot Work Because They Must Care For A Family Member Who Is Ill With The Coronavirus Will They Be Eligible For Unemployment Benefits? What If A Worker Must Stay Home To Care For A Child?

Delaware will consider this employee temporarily laid off during the state of emergency. The employee should return to work as soon as they are released. If work is no longer available after the employee is released for work or the employee fails to return to work the agency will make a new determination.

Are Workers Required To Submit Medical Documentation If They Are Unemployed Due To

Their Own Inability To Work Or The Need To Care For A Minor Child?

In most cases, yes. However, the agency recognizes the burden placed on the health care industry during this time and will waive this requirement during the state of emergency